

## OTHER NOTICES

**Buxton, L. H. Dudley** (Ed.). *Custom Is King: Essays Presented to R. R. Marett*. London, 1936. Hutchinson's Scientific and Technical Publications. Pp. xiii + 325. Price 12s. 6d.

THE appearance of a *Festschrift* is in the happiest tradition of science and literature. The present volume commemorates the seventieth birthday of the Rector of Exeter College in the form of nineteen essays by European and American scholars, many of them old pupils of the recipient, a bibliography of his scientific writings by Mr. T. K. Penniman and an appreciation of him by the editor. It is fitting that a work dedicated to so outstanding a disciple of the great Tylor should be predominantly anthropological, the titles ranging from Dr. Rattray's "Totemism and Blood-Groups in West Africa" to Professor Hocart's "Snobbery." To single out particular contributions for comment would be an invidious task, though Dr. Buxton's essay on the Romano-Britons and the Saxons and Professor Hooton's discussion of the relation of physical anthropology to its cultural sister should be of special interest to eugenists concerned with the literally human side of our rough island story and with the synthesis of the complementary branches of the science of man. As one who has sat at the feet of both Dr. Marett and the editor of *Custom Is King*, the reviewer can only rejoice in the continued activity of the former in a field in which he is a master and congratulate the latter on his achievement in producing a book worthy in content and format of the figure it honours.

J. C. T.

**Fisher, R. A.** *The Design of Experiments*. Second edition. Edinburgh, 1937. Oliver & Boyd. Pp. 260. Price 12s. 6d.

THE second edition of this useful work differs little from the first, reviewed in these columns a year ago. The chief additions are a set of examples illustrating the newly developed quasi-factorial designs, and also orthogonal sets of  $8 \times 8$  and  $9 \times 9$  Latin squares. No attempt, however, has been made to give a full account of quasi-factorial designs (indeed, any such attempt might be regarded as premature).

F. YATES.

**Ortner, Dr. Eduard.** *Biologische Typen des Menschen und ihr Verhältnis zu Rasse und Wert*. Leipzig, 1936. Georg Thieme. Pp. 104. With 70 illustrations. Price R.M. 7.50.

SIX gaily coloured circles, with arrows pointing in and out, and a large or a small sphere in the centre adorn the cover of this book. Is it just an ornament, or perhaps a collection of unfamiliar astrological symbols? It is neither, but symbolizes six

types of psychological behaviour into which mankind has been neatly sorted out by the author. There are "intra-basal" types with their psychological centre of gravity in the person itself, or "extra-basal" types, where the surroundings predominate. Three subtypes according to the way in which the type adapts itself to the surroundings bring the total up to six. These "biological types" are not derived from experience, but abstract "ideations" arrived at by deduction from certain theoretical assumptions. The author now invests his creations with their psychological behaviour in great detail; some are really splendid fellows with all conceivable virtues; others are less admirable, but still sympathetic; others are just tolerable, some are the worst kinds of under-dogs, mean, slavish and what not. How Dr. Ortner knows all about the psychological structure of abstract types whose reality has yet to be proved, we are not told.

This done, the author is surprised and at the same time pleased to find that his abstract "biological types" correspond on the whole beautifully to the six (just six! it can't be a coincidence!) "styles" of racial psychology described by L. F. Clauss. This latter finds that his six "races" have some uniform psychological structure which expresses itself uniformly in their features; the mimic is then used to characterize the racial soul. Now we have simply to identify Clauss's styles ("nordisch," "fälsch," "mittelländisch," "wüstenländisch," "vorderasiatisch" and "ostisch") with Ortner's "biological types," and we know exactly what fine fellows the "Nordics" and "Fælics" are, and what a detestable lot are the Jews. More than that; since the author has enlightened us about the psychological basis of the differences, we can even show that what appears to be the same thing, say faithfulness ("Treue"), may have very different origins. In the "fælics" it flows from very noble sources. In the "westics," the matter is already suspect; but we read (p. 56) that "despite all that there are really typical kinds of behaviour of westic man to which one may with some justification give the name of 'Treue.'" Frenchmen and Italians cannot but be gratified with so much generosity and consideration! But the other peoples, the "ostics," the "desert-dwellers" and the "Vorderasiaten" are badly off; when they are "treu," it really does not deserve that name, for it is merely the faithfulness of a serf, of a slave or a dog. Dr. Ortner's analysis of his basic "biological types" proves that quite clearly.

Now Dr. Ortner shows how the racial psychology has moulded art. Here we are presented with sixty-two photographs. I don't know much about these things, but I guess that the late German-Jewish painter, Max Liebermann, would have been

pleased to see that in the chapter "Intrapetal-vorderasiatische Kunst," in which he is dealt with, he is followed by Rembrandt who, it cannot be helped, lived suspiciously near a ghetto; true, he was not a Jew; but in such wealthy centres of international commerce like medieval Venice or the big harbours of Holland, you never can tell. "And therefore it is no mere coincidence that one of the most prominent representatives of psychic impressionism, Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn, comes from such surroundings, and it is not surprising that his art enjoyed the greatest admira-

tion just in the period now concluded" (p. 94). So that, rather neatly I think, disposes of Rembrandt.

Dr. Ortner is a master of subtle distinctions, and his ability to coin new words is remarkable; they convey the impression that they are pregnant with deeper sense. Maybe they are. In any case Dr. Ortner is to be envied for the elegance with which he reaches certainties, where all the toils of us poor scientists fail to produce anything but lesser or greater probabilities.

L. M. I. ASH.

Each Number of

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considers one human problem from a variety of aspects, among which the genetic approach is regularly included. It appears three times a year. The topic which the October-January number so discusses is internationalism. Prof. Ernst Jäckh, director of the New Commonwealth Institute, has written the leader. Prof. H. J. Fleure, Doctors C. M. Fillmore and Adrian Stephen and Messrs. C. A. Mace, J. C. Trevor and R. Herdman Pender then follow with a series of contributions at once readable and authoritative.

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